



## Class of 2008 graduates in Praia

**Capt. Shilo Weir**

65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Fourteen students from the Department of Defense Dependent School here received their high school diplomas during the Class of 2008 Commencement Ceremony at 6 p.m. June 6 in the Praia Auditorium.

The 2008 graduates from Lajes Elementary/High School are Nathan Beard, Seirra Bowman, Robert DeMelo, Zachary Funari, Jessica Hunt, Micheal Lehman, Alexa McMonagle, Kristiana Miller, Cameron Oldham, Larissa Palmer, Justin Rita, Tatiana Slater, Christian Soto and Janel Thomas.

"I extend hearty congratulations to all members of the Class of 2008," said Virginia



Seniors from Lajes Elementary/High School listen as Sierra Bowman, senior class president gives a speech June 6 at the graduation ceremony. (Photo by Master Sgt. Sean Lehman)

See **GRADS** on page 3

## Leaders change, standards and challenges do not

**By Gen. Roger A. Brady**

U.S. Air Forces in Europe Commander

**RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany** — This was a difficult week for our Air Force. On Thursday, June 5, our Secretary and Chief of Staff tendered their resignations to the Secretary of Defense. Secretary Mike Wynne and General Buzz Moseley are men of honor and integrity. Their resignations resulted from failures in a critical mission area, one in which perfection is the minimum acceptable standard. While the reasons for these errors occurred over many years, their accepting accountability for our mistakes teaches us all a powerful lesson in leadership. On Monday, June 9, Secretary of Defense recommended to the President to designate Mr. Michael Donley as acting Air Force Secretary effective June 21. He also nominated Mr. Donley as permanent

Air Force Secretary and Gen. Norton Schwartz as Air Force Chief of Staff. While our leadership is changing, our standards and challenges have not. We remain the most feared and respected Air Force on the planet. Our priorities remain the same. We still must: —win today's fight ... here, in the CENTCOM AOR, and throughout the world; —take care of our Airmen ... we must be more prepared, better trained and educated, and have strong, well-supported families for the challenges ahead; —prepare for tomorrow ... we must field the systems that will allow us to prevail tomorrow, and build the partnerships that will ensure stability and the success of future coalitions. We must ask ourselves every day, "What needs to be better?" Then we need to set about making it better. We must see problems in their infancy, not walk by them—the Airman or officer who forgets to render appropriate courtesies or has an

unprofessional appearance, dorm conditions that are allowed to deteriorate and with them our morale and focus on excellence, deviations in operations and maintenance that seem individually insignificant but erode our effectiveness and the margin of safety we require. We are the world's most respected air, space and cyber force because our forebearers made it so. The next generation of Airmen will only wear that mantle if we uphold the standards they set for us. We better get at it.



**UCI Countdown**  
**86**

*Days remaining  
until Lajes Field's  
Unit Compliance  
Inspection*



## Leading differs in deployments

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Tom Angelo  
65th ABW Chapel

Since Desert Storm the United States has been engaged in operations without a declaration of war by Congress. These actions have been made up of ally and coalition partnerships to respond to a number of hot spots ranging from humanitarian relief efforts to the war against terrorists groups.

One key adjustment that leaders will have to make is to know as much as possible about different countries and cultures in the world. This is important in dealing with both our coalition allies and our adversaries.

Serving as a wing chaplain it is my responsibility to be able to educate my staff when it comes to dealing with different cultures. I need to accomplish my own research and draw on my previous life experiences, especially those five deployments to Southwest Asia. My first deployment to that part of the world was in 1996 to Khobar Towers. I began my deployment in late May and finished in the beginning of September. It was

like two deployments – pre and post terrorist attack. I had prepared myself to be emerged into an Islamic culture by doing some basic research on Islam and cultural do's and don'ts. This was helpful when we had the opportunity to travel off base, do some shopping and enjoying some local food. A person had to be sensitive to the cultural mores when it came to dealing with women. While shopping at the mall I noticed that the range of dress was from conservative western to full covering (abaya) with only the eye area being exposed. Of course it was not polite to stare at a style of dress we would not be accustomed to.

The post terrorist deployment was filled with change. Immediately after the bombing our chapel was taken over during the week by investigative agencies. Our team had to be flexible since our meeting space was desirable and comfortable, but we safeguarded our services by being up front about meeting our worship schedule. Two days after the bombing I was heading down to Seeb, Oman to conduct a memorial service and provide pastoral aid to the

Airmen assigned there. The previous day a C-130 navigator and a medical tech lost their lives when they drowned while hiking in the hills. They were caught in a flash flood which cascaded down the gorge they were hiking in. Four other Airmen survived the flash flood but were visibly shaken by their ordeal.

In August the decision was made that U.S. Airmen would be leaving Khobar to move to Al Kharge, south of Riyadh. I spent my last two weeks packing up our offices in moving trailers while keeping a minimal amount of supplies to meet our services needs.

Leaders need to be flexible and creative in dealing in environments that are uncertain. We had to split our team, one setting up the new facility and one closing the old. I was well prepared for my first deployment in support of

Operation Enduring Freedom. I emerged myself in both learning what I could about the host country and also prepared a slide presentation on Islam that I used once I arrived at the deployed location to help

educate our deployed Airmen. A condensed version was used at the right start briefings we conducted the first month of the deployment. I also had the opportunity of serving on the combined command post with host country officers to deal with daily business as well as having cultural exchange dinners. It was an eye opener to me when talking about America, the host country officer said we were so violent. When I asked why he said that he told me that he came to that conclusion from watching American television shows on satellite TV. He said he knows that might not be true but those shows shape the impressions of other countries and this is the distorted view they see of Americans. I had to try to explain it is just television, but when American television is so filled with violence I can understand how one would arrive at this view.

The key to successful leadership is to be respectful of other cultures while promoting our own accurately and undoing some presumptions others have of America.

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*"Leaders need to be flexible and creative in dealing in environments that are uncertain."*

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—Chaplain Angelo

535-4240

[actionline@lajes.af.mil](mailto:actionline@lajes.af.mil)

The Commander's Line is your link to me for suggestions, kudos and as a way to work problems or issues within the 65th Air Base Wing for which you can't find another solution. Your chain of command



Col. JL Briggs

should always be your first option for praise or problems — but when that's not the answer, call or e-mail the Commander's Line at 535-4240 or [actionline@lajes.af.mil](mailto:actionline@lajes.af.mil).

Col. JL Briggs

Commander, 65th Air Base Wing



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## Good to Know

### OHA Utility Survey

The Overseas Housing Allowance Survey, available at <https://www.perdiem.osd.mil/oha/survey/mayoha.html>, ends June 16. This survey is an opportunity for people who live off base and receive OHA. A similar survey for Cost of Living Allowance was conducted last year and COLA for this location has increased.

### Books for Botswana

The 65th Contracting Squadron is hosting a book drive in an effort to collect books and supplies for a day care center in Botswana. To donate, drop off children's books, construction paper, crayons, misc. art/school supplies at the drop-off donations boxes at the commissary, BX, Post Office, shoppette, and CDC through June 25. For details, call 535-1469.

### Volunteer of the Quarter Nominations

Submit 2nd quarter (April to June 08) volunteer nominations to the Airman & Family Readiness Center. Nominations are due by June 26. There are two volunteer categories: active duty and civilian (spouses and local nationals are included in the civilian category). Please use form AF 1206 at <http://www.e-publishing.af.mil/>. If you do not have access to the form, contact Lucy Rodriguez and she will e-mail individuals the form, or e-mail to [Lucy.rodriguez@lajes.af.mil](mailto:Lucy.rodriguez@lajes.af.mil) the following information in a word document: nominees name, contact information and description of accomplishments in bullet format. The nomination packages should be 5-10 concise bullets pertaining to the second quarter only. For more information, call 535-4138.

### Food Handler Training for Fundraisers

The Public Health Office will offer Food Handler Training from 1 to 3 p.m. June 23 to certify individuals who wish to participate in fundraisers selling food. Successful completion of the training is valid for one year. To sign up, contact Public Health at 535-3464.

### GRADS continued from page 1

Briggs, Lajes Elementary/High School principal. "I had the joy of watching them grow, learn, mature, and prepare to become bona fide adult members of this world of ours, and I believe that each of them is ready."

In addition to honoring the graduates, this year's commencement featured speeches from Sierra Bowman, senior class president, and Cameron Oldham, class valedictorian.

The Lajes' Class of 2008 graduates have big plans for their futures as they begin preparation for careers as Airmen, a psychologist, a biologist, an author of creative writing, a music teacher, two photographers, a business owner, a medical maintenance engineer, an orthopedic surgeon, an altruist and an artist.

"Whatever they do, with their individual talents and outstanding personal attributes," said Ms. Briggs, "they are sure to help create a future that has a positive and lasting impact for all of us."

Ms. Briggs added that the Class of 2008 will always hold a special place in her heart as she retires this month after 28 years of federal service.

"They were the last for whom I had the privilege of conferring diplomas," she said. "May they experience great success and know every happiness as this next chapter in their lives begins to unfold."



*Micheal Lehman receives his diploma June 6 at Praia Auditorium. (Photo by Master Sgt. Sean Lehman)*

## Lajes Salutes

□ Way to go to Team Lajes' promotees for June: *To Airman 1st Class:* **Jeremy Garner**, 65th Medical Support Squadron; *To Senior Airman:* **Jessica Mayer**, 65th Operations Support Squadron; and **Bryan Petry**, 65th Mission Support Squadron. *To Staff Sergeant:* **Christopher Estes**, 65th Civil Engineer Squadron; and **Katherine Gerner**, 65th OSS; *To Master Sergeant:* **Brian Kush**, 65th Air Base Wing; **Casey Merrington**, 65th MSS; **Russell Michaud**, 65th Security Forces Squadron; and **Adam Morgan** 729th Air Mobility Squadron. *To Major:* **Ann McManis**, 65th MDSS.

□ Congratulations to students at Lajes who earned their degrees this year. The following students completed a Community College of the Air Force Associates degree: **David Basco**, Maintenance Production Management; **Craig Boyer**, Aviation Maintenance; **Rhode Castillo**, Allied Health Sciences; **Thomas Churchill**, Criminal Justice; **Erica Daniels**, Financial Management; **Guy Dashnea**, Criminal Justice; **Kathleen Dashnea**, Human Resource Management; **Michael Dunblazier**, Logistics; **Spencer Ervin**, Information Systems Technology; **Marcos Garcia**, Criminal Justice; **Terence Gerner**, Airway Science; **Melissa Harvey**, Information Systems Technology; **Lynetta Jackson**, Electronic Systems Technology; **Pamela Jirsa**, Information Systems Technology; **Christina McGee**, Information Systems Technology; **James Menden**, Aviation Maintenance Technology; **Casey Merrington**, Health Care Management; **Charles Murray**, Fire Science; **Shannon Ofiara**, Public Affairs; **James Pollock**, Electronic Systems Technology; **Jaime Reyes**, Human Resource Management; **James Richardson**, Human Resource Management; **Freda Rushing**, Human Resource Management; **Lucas Shay**, Electronic Systems Technology; **Scott Sojak**, Airway Science; **Patricia Souza**, Restaurant, Hotel and Fitness Management; **Susan Sooknanan**, Contracts Management; **Monte Waters**, Human Resource Management and Criminal Justice; **Nathaniel Watts**, Aviation Management; **Kelli Werner**, Mechanical and Electrical Technology; **Arthur Wholly**, Fire Science; **Waymie Williams-Brandt**, Information Systems Technology and **Scott Yonkers**, Logistics.

-University of Maryland University College awarded degrees to: **Kougar Ashpole**, Bachelor of Science in Psychology; and **Kenneth Jack**, Bachelor of Science in Business Administration.

-**Jeremy Carney** received his Bachelor of Science in Professional Aeronautics from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University.

-The following students received their Masters of Human Relations degree from the University of Oklahoma: **Janet Harris**, **Kristin Marino**, **Shannah McQuary**, **Christin Michaud**, **William Sullivan**, **Christina Vaca** and **CJ Vaca**.

-**Robert Jessop** received a Bachelor of Applied Science Degree in Resources and Technology Management from Troy State.



Today	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<b>7:15 a.m.</b> 5K Fun Run, Chace Fitness Center <b>4 p.m.</b> Parent Involvement Activity - Teddy Bear Picnic, child development center <b>6 p.m.</b> Build Your Own Pasta Buffet, TORC <b>7 p.m.</b> The Forbidden Kingdom (PG-13) <b>10 p.m.</b> Forgetting Sarah Marshall (R)	<b>8:30 a.m.</b> Services Sidewalk Chalk Contest, community center <b>2 p.m.</b> Table Tennis, community center <b>2:30 p.m.</b> \$ .25/ game, bowling alley <b>7 p.m.</b> The Forbidden Kingdom (PG-13) <b>10 p.m.</b> 88 Minutes (R)	<b>9 a.m.</b> Evangelical Service <b>9 a.m.</b> CCD <b>10:30 a.m.</b> Mass <b>11 a.m.</b> Sunday Brunch, TORC <b>Noon</b> Praise Service <b>2 p.m.</b> The Forbidden Kingdom (PG-13) <b>2:30 p.m.</b> \$ .25/ game, bowling alley <b>7 p.m.</b> Forgetting Sarah Marshall (R)	<b>USAFE Family Day</b> <b>8 a.m.</b> Fitness center open until 9 p.m. for family day <b>10 a.m.</b> Library open - registration begins for the Summer Reading Program "Catch the Reading Bug" <b>10 a.m.</b> BX opens	<b>10 a.m.</b> EDIS Playgroup, LYP <b>10 a.m.</b> Thrift Store now open Tuesdays <b>5:20 p.m.</b> Step Class, fitness center <b>5:30 p.m.</b> Mongolian BBQ, TORC <b>6 p.m.</b> Spin class, fitness center cycle room <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Band "Hinder" performs at Warrior Park	<b>8:30 a.m.</b> Spouses coffee and donuts at the TORC <b>10 a.m.</b> Thrift Store open <b>11 a.m.</b> Bowl w/ your Boss special <b>5 p.m.</b> Family Night, bowling alley <b>5:30 p.m.</b> Cake Decorating Class, \$25 Arts & Crafts <b>6 p.m.</b> Open Play Volleyball <b>6:30 p.m.</b> \$ .35 Wings, TORC	<b>11:15 a.m.</b> Students dismissed for the summer <b>Noon</b> Swimming Pool open <b>2 p.m.</b> Beginner Powerpoint <b>2 p.m.</b> Thrift Store open until 6 p.m. <b>5:30 p.m.</b> Cake Decorating Class <b>7 p.m.</b> 88 Minutes (R) <b>9 p.m.</b> Chili Dog & Karaoke, TORC

## Community Events

**Bullfights:** 6:30 p.m. Saturday: Altares 6:30 p.m. Sunday: Porto Martins; Cabouco, Fontinhas; Next to Modelo Superstore, Angra; and 6:30 p.m. Tuesday: Vila Nova.

**Sanjoaninas Festival:** The Sanjoaninas Festival is scheduled for June 20-29 in Angra. See next's week's Crossroads Xtra for a story on the background as well as a schedule of events.

## Extreme Summer

**Rockmund Dunbar:** Prison Break celebrity Rockmund Dunbar will tour USAFE bases for Extreme Summer. He will appear at Lajes June 21. Military personnel are invited to attend lunch with Rockmund Dunbar at the dining facility at noon June 21. From 3:30 to 4:40 p.m. he will be available to sign autographs at the community center. The autograph signing is open to everyone.

**Earn Points:** Earn points for Extreme Summer at Services Facilities. Visit [www.extremesummer.com](http://www.extremesummer.com) for details.

## Swimming Pool 535-3363

The swimming pool is open from noon to 7 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. Daily fees are \$2.50 for children and \$3.75 for adults. Season passes are \$50 per person, \$70 for a couple, and \$100 for a family of five. Cost is \$5 for each additional child. Pool Parties are available for \$75 and hour with the slide or \$60 an hour without. Swimming lessons will also be available for \$45 for the first child and \$25 for each additional child. Children under 10 must be accompanied and supervised by an adult. Children 11-13 may be unattended if they can demonstrate the ability to swim 12 meters. Children who are not toilet trained may not use the main pool.

## Lajes Park Lanes

**Bowling Passes:** Purchase a pass for unlimited bowling valid through Aug. 31 for \$45. Free bowling ball with pass purchase. Shoes not included. Not to be used in conjunction with leagues, tournaments, cosmic bowling, or parties.

**Wednesday Lunch/Bowling Special:** Show a Lajes Park receipt for lunch valued at \$4 or more and bowl two games free between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. the same day. Children under 12 get 2 games free with the purchase of a kid's meal. Shoes not included.

## Education

**AFCT Testing Schedule:** The MPE will be giving the Armed Forces Classification Test June 26. The AFCT is similar to the ASVAB, but for active-duty personnel interested in retraining. For details or to sign up to take this test, e-mail [william.franklin@lajes.af.mil](mailto:william.franklin@lajes.af.mil) by June 24.

## Arts & Crafts 535-3909

**Cake Decorating Class:** 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday. \$25.

**Intermediate Beading Class:** Tuesday and Thursday. Cost is \$36, two-hour class. If you took the beginner's class you will have all the tools, bring them with you. Tuesday classes start at 5:30 p.m. Thursday classes start at noon.

**Advanced Beading Class:** June 24 and 26. \$36, two-hour class. All materials provided. Minimum age is 14. Deadline to sign up is three days prior. Tuesday classes start at 5:30 p.m. Thursday classes start at noon. Sign up at the Arts & Crafts Center, Bldg. T-319.

**Metal Embossing Class:** 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. June 25 and 26. \$25.

## HAWC 535-3889

**Fitness Library:** The HAWC has up-to-date fitness DVD's for check out.

**MicroFit Assessment:** Find out how fit you really are. The HAWC offers a full MicroFit assessment for active-duty, dependents and local nationals. Call 535-HAWC and set up an appointment.

## Post Office

**Postal Hours Change:** The parcel pick-up window and finance window will be closed Fridays. Customers will still have access to their boxes.

## Community Center

**Colossal Cookie Challenge:** 11 a.m. June 28 in the community center. Categories include, special occasion or holiday, no bake, healthy and cookie maker's special (all others). Deadline to register is June 20. Call 535-5216 for details.

## Fitness Center 535-6126

**Kids vs. Parents Kickball:** 10 a.m. June 28 at the SFS Softball Field. Open to everyone; can sign up as team or individuals, and do not have to have children to play.

## Classified Ads

E-mail classified ads to [news@lajes.af.mil](mailto:news@lajes.af.mil) by 5 p.m. the Thursday prior to the week you need it published. Notify the Crossroads when items have been sold. Lajes personnel may also post ads at [Lajesads.com](http://Lajesads.com). This site is not affiliated with the Crossroads.

For Sale: White '89 Ford Tempo. Automatic locks, automatic transmission, runs fine, inspection out-of-date. Asking \$1,000. Call 295-549-114 or 969-622-401.

For Sale: 7'6" Epoxy/Tri-Fin Surfboard with board bag. Excellent Condition \$280. Call Brian 535-6137 or 295-549-499.